

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00143 152116Z

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0143

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MZ, RH

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL'S ADDRESS TO FRELIMO CENTRAL
COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: IN A TWO HOUR SPEECH BEFORE THE 8TH SESSION OF FRELIMO
CENTRAL COMMITTEE, PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL ACCUSED SOME MEMBERS
OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF BACK-SLIDING AND ACQUIRING BOUREGEOIS
HABITS, SAID THAT DEVELOPMENT IN THE FORMER LIBERATED ZONES
(IN CABO DELGADO DISTRICT) SHOULD BE GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION,
AND ISSUED A STERN WARNING TO RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH
THAT MOZAMBIQUE WOULD RETALIATE AGAINST FURTHER BORDER VIO-
LATIONS. MACHEL ALSO ATTACKED INDIVIDUALISM, SAID PROBLEMS
OF FORMER OVERSEAS STUDENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH, AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00143 152116Z

OUTLINED TASKS OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S 8TH SESSION.

END SUMMARY

1. IN FEB 11 SPEECH BEFORE 8TH SESSION OF FRELIMO CENTRAL COMMITTEE (BUT FIRST TO BE HELD IN INDEPENDENT MOZAMBIQUE) PRESIDENT MACHEL, IN ANOTHER LONG-WINDED PERFORMANCE, REVIEWED HISTORY OF PREVIOUS CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND THEN PROCEEDED TO DISCUSS FOLLOWING TOPICS:

A. CENTRAL COMMITTEE BACK-SLIDING-MACHEL SAID THAT SOME LEADERS, CADRES AND "MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE" HAD NOT ASSIMILATED OR COMPREHENDED NEW GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES. HE THEN ACCUSED THEM OF HAVING BEEN EFFECTED BY THE BIG CITY ATMOSPHERE AND HAVING ACQUIRED BOURGEOIS HABITS. THIS BACK-SLIDING CONTRIBUTED TO PRESERVATION OF THE COLONIALIST SUPER-STRUCTURE AND INHIBITED REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS. HE WARNED THEM NOT TO REJECT OR VIEW PROCESS OF COLLECTIVIZATION AS EPHEMERAL PHASE IN PROPLES STRUGGLE: "THERE HAS BEEN A TENDENCY AMONG SOME CADRES TO CONSIDER THE FORM OF LIFE THAT WAS OURS, THE COLLECTIVE LIFE, A NECESSITY OF CIRCUMSTANCES IMPOSED BY THE CONDITIONS OF THE STRUGGLE, AND WHICH ARE TODAY NOT JUSTIFIED. THE COLLECTIVE LIFE FOR US IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CON-QUESTS OF OUR STRUGGLE, OUR REVOLUTION AND OUR PEOPLE."

B. LIBERATED ZONES-MACHEL SAID THERE WERE RUMOR MONGERS AND SPECULATORS WHO WERE TRYING TO ALTER THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS AND INTENTIONS IN THE LIBERATED AREAS IN CABO DELGADO. HE URGED THAT CURRENT MEETING BE DEDICATED TO ANALYZING THE PROBLEMS OF THOSE AREAS AND IN PROVIDING MORE HEALTH, EDUCATIONAL AND COM-MERCIAL SERVICES TO PEOPLE THERE.

C. STUDENTS EDUCATED ABROAD-MACHEL EXPLAINED THAT MANY FRIENDLY COUNTRIES HAD PROVIDED FRELIMO CADRE WITH SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY ABROAD. HOWEVER, MOST OF THESE STUDENTS REFUSED TO RETURN HOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIGHT FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION, CLAIMING THAT THE "ARMED STRUGGLE WAS FOR THE UNEDUCATED". LOOKING ONLY TOWARD THE PERIOD AFTER THE AFTER THE PORTUGUESE WERE DEFEATED, THEY THOUGHT "IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO FIGHT." THIS WAS WRONG. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THESE FORMER STUDENTS.

D. SOUTHERN RHODESIA--IN HIS MOST MILITANT REMARKS TO DATE, MACHEL REMINDED HIS AUDIENCE THAT DURING THE COLONIAL PERIOD, THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT HAD SANCTIONED A NUMBER OF INCURSION INTO MOZAMBIQUE HAD THAT RHODESIAN FORCES IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PORTUGUESE HAD PARTICIPATE IN THE MASSACRE OF SOME MOZAMBIQUE PEOPLE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MAPUTO 00143 152116Z

FUTURE VIOLATIONS OF MOZAMBIQUE'S BORDERS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. AND BELLIGERENTLY HE DECLARED: WE ARE SAYIN THIS TO YOU PUBLICLY. WE WILL ADVANCE IN THIS MANNER: "AN EYE FOR AN EYE AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH." FURTHERMONRE, HE SAID "OUR GOAL IS NOT TO IMPEDE THE REALIZATION OF OUR INTERNATIONALIST DUTY OF UNCONDITIONALLLY SUPPORTING THE STRUGGLE FOR ZIMBABWE, AND OF MOBILIZING ALL THE MOZAMBIQUE PEOPLE FROM THE ROVUMA TO THE MAPUT

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE." MACHEL THEN IMPLIED THAT MOZAMBIQUE WOULD NOT ENTER THE FRAY ALONE BUT WOULD BE SUPPORTED ACTIVELY BY ITS "NATURAL ALLIES," THE SOCIALIST AND PROGRESSIVE STATES OF THE WORLD.

E. INDIVIDUALISM-ADDRESSING HIS REMARKS AGAIN TO THOSE WHO MIGHT BE VEERING FROM PATH OF COLLECTIVISM, MACHEL LASHED OUT AT THE DANGER OF INDIVIDUALISM IN MOZAMBIQUE SOCIETY. INDIVIDUALISM, HE SAID, IS A FORM OF CAPITALISM: IT IS EVIL; IT HAS NOT PLACE IN MOZAMBIQUE; AND, IT MUST BE CONTAINED AND LIQUIDATED.

F. AGENDA FOR 8TH CENTRAL COMMITTEE SESSION- MACHEL THEN SAID THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS SHOULD ANALYZE THE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS: 1) THE IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL BASE THAT SHOULD GUIDE MOZAMBIQUE'S NEW SOCIETY; 2) THE STRUCTURE OF POPULAR DEMOCRATIC POWER; 3) THE WAY IN WHICH FRELIMO CAN PLAY ITS PROPER ROLE IN DEVELOPING THE NEW SOCIETY; 4) THE CURRENT AFRICAN AND WORLD SITUATION IN VIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND CAPITALISM; AND MOZAMBIQUE'S UNITY AND DETERMINATION TO SEE IF NEEDS TO BE HEIGHTENED TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE CURRENT GLOBAL STRUGGLE.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH MACHEL HAMMERED A LOT OF FAMILIAR THEMES, THIS SPEECH TOUCHED ON SEVERAL ISSUE THAT HAVE HERETOFORE BEEN SWEEPED UNDER THE RUG. FIRST, MACHEL FOR THE FIRST TIME ACCUSED SOME MEMBERS OF THE FRELIMO CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF BACK-SLIDING AND OF OPPOSING HIS AND THE PARTY'S POLICIES. RUMORS CIRCULATING IN MAPUTO INDICATE THAT MODERATES IN THE FRELIMO HIERARCHY HAVE OPPOSED SOME OF MACHEL'S NATIONALIZATION SCHEMES. MACHEL'S ATTACK ON THEM AT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING IS THE FIRST SIGN THAT HE IS GOING TO ACTIVELY TRY TO ISOLATE AND POSSIBLY ELIMINATE THAT OPPOSITION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MAPUTO 00143 152116Z

4. SECOND, MACHEL HINTED THAT HE MAY BE HAVING A PROBLEM IN THE FORMER LIBERATED AREAS, I.E. THE HEAVILY MAKONDE AREAS OF CABO DELGADO. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS FROM BUSINESSMEN AND EMIGRATING FARMERS INDICATE THAT FRELIMO IS EXPERIENCING POST-INDEPENDENCE OPPOSITION FROM MAKONDE. THE MAKONDE WERE THE BACKBONE OF THE FRELIMO'S PRE-INDEPENDENCE FIGHTING FORCE AND ARE NOW THE MOST UNDER-REPRESENTED ETHNIC GROUP IN FRELIMO (WITH NO MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION). MACHEL' PLEA TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO MAKE THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE FORMER LIBERATED AREAS A PRIORITY IS OBVIOUS EFFORT TO AMELIORATE WHAT IS A TROUBLESOME SITUATION IN THE NORTH.

5. THIRD, MACHEL'S WARNINGS TO THE RHODESIAN ARE NOT NEW, BUT ONLY LIGHTLY VIELED THREAT THAT HE WOULD GET SUPPORT FROM

SOCIALIST AND PROGRESSIVE STATES (PRESUMABLY RUSSIA AND CUBA)
FOR HIS PART,
MACHEL IS BASICALLY A WARRIOR, NOT A STATESMAN, AND SEES
HIMSELF LEADING THE PEOPLES ARMY INTO SALISBURY AND EVENTUALLY
PRETORIA. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT EVEN IF HE HAS TO COMMIT
HIS OWN TROOPS, ACTIVITY ALONG MOZAMBIQUE-RHODESIAN BORDER WILL
INCREASE. THE ONLY REAL QUESTIONS ARE HOW SOON AND WITH THE
HELP AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF WHICH SOCIALIST POWERS.
CARSON

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